REMARKS

Claims 1-52 are pending in the application. Claim 45 has been amended and claims 7-19, 23, 25-27, 35, 44, and 49 have been withdrawn pursuant to a restriction requirement.

Claim Objections

Claim 45 has been objected to for inadvertently depending from claim 56 instead of from claim 43. This inadvertent error has been corrected by amending claim 45 to now properly depend from claim 43.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-6, 20-22, 24, 28-34, 36-37, 43, 45-58 and 50-52 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over U.S. Patent No. 6,698,621. This rejection is believed overcome in view of the accompanying terminal disclaimer.

The applicants respectfully assert that in accordance with the Office Action of January 14, 2005, and the applicants' Response filed February 25, 2005, claims 4, 7, and 23-24 are generic claims. In view of the applicants' submission of the accompanying terminal disclaimer, the applicants respectfully assert that generic claims 4, 7, and 23-24 are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully assert that all of the claims subjected to the earlier restriction requirement should now be brought back into the instant application. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully assert that claims 1-52 are now pending in the instant application and are in condition for allowance.

Appl. No. 10/790,957 Amdt. dated August 29, 2005 Reply to Office Action of May 24, 2005

The applicants have made a novel and non-obvious contribution to the art of selection manifold design. The claims at issue are believed to be in condition for allowance and such allowance is now earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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